



For Immediate Release
June 12, 2015

Contact: Peter Schelden
Phone: (562) 985-1822
E-mail: Peter.Schelden@csulb.edu

Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu Tells the Stories of Hawaiian History Through Dance

This hālau uses live narration, more than 20 dancers and a mix of traditional and contemporary music to tell its tales.

LONG BEACH, California – Telling stories from both Hawaiian mythology and newspapers (“nupepa”), the dancers of Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu will perform Saturday, March 14 at 8 p.m. inside the Carpenter Performing Arts Center, 6200 Atherton Street, at Cal State Long Beach. Single tickets start at \$45.

The dance company plans to bring 21 dancers and four musicians to the Carpenter Center stage for this celebration of Hawaiian culture. This event will mark the troupe’s third appearance at the Carpenter Center.

The Honolulu Star Advertiser describes dance school director Patrick Makuakane as “a prolific craftsman without boundaries.” Makuakane sometimes startles Hawaiian purists with his willingness to mix Hawaiian traditions with newer music, a style called *hula mau*. This year Gershwin, the Isley Brothers and a traditional 1920s jazz standard will be featured in a set list mostly comprised of traditional Hawaiian songs.

Founded in 1985, Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu (“the many feathered wreaths at the summit, held in high esteem”) teaches classes to beginning and intermediate dancers and holds educational workshops in Hawaiian language, history, arts and crafts. It has won several Isadora Duncan Dance Awards, as well as a lifetime achievement award from the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival.

For tickets and more information, visit CarpenterArts.org or call the Carpenter Center Ticket Office at (562) 985-7000. This series is made possible in part by Season Media Partner KPCC 89.3-FM.

